THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) A Bill to establish Mahatma Gandhi Anterrashtriya Hindi Vishvavidyalaya at Wardha in Maharashtra is currently pending consideration of the Parliament.

[English]

Study Group to Enhance Agency Charges

1378. SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had appointed any Study Group to consider the demand of States to enhance the agency charges on the expenditure for original and repair works executed by the State Government on National Highways:

(b) if so, the details thereof of the recommendations made by the Study Group and reaction of the Government thereto:

(c) the reasons for delay in implementation of these recommendations: and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise

National Health Scheme

1379. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether performance of National Health Schemes for eradication of Malaria, Leprosy, T.B., AIDS and Cancer etc. have been evaluated for the last three years:

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise, scheme-wise and year-wise in terms of standard evaluation norms and trends revealed in implementation of the programmes in various States:

(c) the details of shortcomings that have come to notice at implementation stage and the fresh initiative taken/proposed for effective implementation of these schemes during the current year with new strategies/ thrust areas worked out: and

(d) the details of action plan worked out for implementation of these schemes in Maharashtra with tentative allocation of funds thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The National Malaria Eradication Programme was evaluated by an Export Committee in 1995. No nation-wide evaluation has been carried out for other National Health Schemes but all of them are being regularly monitored. State-wise details of the National review of Natonal Malaria Eradication Programme are being compiled.

(b) and (c). An Expert Committee on National Malaria Eradication Programme identified high risk areas for implementation of revised strategy in all States of the country.

(d) **Malaria** :

Based on the recommendation of Export Committee, Malaria Action Plan (MAP) a details guideline have been formulated and circulated to all the States Programme Officers and District Malaria Officers for immediate implementation in the country including Maharashtra and a tentative outlay of Rs. 17.59 crores has been given for Maharashtra during 1996-97.

Leprosy :

All the 30 districts of Maharashtra have been covered on MDT Scheme and funds are being provided to the District Leprosy Societies. Tentatively an allocation of Rs. 279 lakhs have been provided for Maharashtra during 1996-97.

T.B.

In Maharashtra the Revised Strategy has been Pilot tosted in part of Bombay city and Pune. The strategy is proposed to be implemented in Raigad and entire Pune district and Bombay in 1997-98. Besides this, in 24 other (Short Course Chemotherapy) districts, TB programme will be strengthened by improving supervision and ensuring supply of an anti-TB drugs in blister combipack strips. During the year 1996-97, an amount of Rs. 598 lakhs has been provided for Maharashtra under this Programme.

AIDS

The Government of Maharashtra, during 1996-97 has drawn up an ambitious Annual Plan estimated at Rs. 9.82 crores for implementation. The same has been approved by the Government of India.

Cancer

In Maharashtra there is Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai recognised as a Regional Cancer Centre. Besides radio-therapy facilities for teatment of cancer are available in 15 other institutions in the State. During the year 1996-97 an amount of Rs. 75.00 lakhs has been released to the institutions in Maharashtra under the Programme.

New NHs. in North East

1380. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for construction of new National Highways or extension of existing N.Hs. in the N.E. Region: